An act to add Section 51225.7 to the Education Code, relating to pupil instruction.





## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 51225.7 is added to the Education Code, to read: 51225.7. (a) For purposes of this section, both of the following definitions apply:

- (1) "Pupil" means a pupil in grade 12 attending a high school maintained by a local educational agency.
- (2) "Local educational agency" means a school district, county office of education, or charter school.
- (b) Commencing with the 2021–22 school year, the governing body of a local educational agency shall confirm both of the following:
- (1) That a pupil not subject to paragraph (2) who has not opted out pursuant to subdivision (c) completes and submits to the United States Department of Education a Free Application for Federal Student Aid.
- (2) That a pupil who has not opted out pursuant to subdivision (c) and is exempt from paying nonresident tuition pursuant to Section 68130.5 completes and submits to the Student Aid Commission a form established pursuant to Section 69508.5 for purposes of the California Dream Act.
- (c) The parent or legal guardian of the pupil, or the pupil if the pupil is a legally emancipated minor or 18 years of age or older, may opt out of the requirements of this section by submitting a written request to the local educational agency.
- (d) If the local educational agency determines that a pupil is unable to complete a requirement of this section due to extenuating circumstances, the agency shall exempt the pupil or, if applicable, the pupil's parent or legal guardian from filing an application or a waiver under subdivision (c).
- (e) The governing body of the local educational agency shall ensure both of the following:
- (1) The local educational agency directs each high school pupil and, if applicable, the pupil's parent or legal guardian, to support and assistance services necessary to comply with the requirement that may be available through outreach programs operated by the Student Aid Commission.
- (2) Information shared by parents, legal guardians, and pupils under this section is handled according to applicable state and federal privacy laws and regulations.
- (f) Except as otherwise specified in this section, the governing body of the local educational agency shall have complete discretion on how to implement this section.
- SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.



## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

Bill No.				
as introduced,				
General Subject: Pupil	instruction:	financial	aid application	ons.

Existing law, commencing with the 2020–21 school year, requires the governing board of a school district and the governing body of a charter school, as appropriate, to ensure that each of its pupils receives information on how to properly complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid or the California Dream Act Application, as appropriate, at least once before the pupil enters grade 12.

This bill, commencing with the 2021–22 school year, would require the governing body of a local educational agency to ensure that a grade 12 pupil who does not opt out, as provided, completes and submits a Free Application for Federal Student Aid or, if the pupil is exempt from paying nonresident tuition under existing law, completes and submits a form for purposes of the California Dream Act. The bill would require a local educational agency to exempt the pupil, or the pupil's parent or legal guardian, from filing an application or submitting a written opt-out request if the local educational agency determines that the pupil is unable to complete the filing or submission due to extenuating circumstances. By imposing additional duties on local educational agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

